(f) if not, the extent position of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Funds allocated for the development of ports in Maharashtra

3589. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Maharashtra has been requesting the Central Government since 2002 for grant of Central assistance for development of ports in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have so far taken any decision in this regard; and

(c) if not, by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Maharashtra Maritime Board had proposed four projects for development of minor ports at Jaigad, Dharamtar, Redi and Vijaydurg under the proposed National Maritime Development Progamme (NMDP). Government has for the time being decided to prepare the National Maritime Development Programme, comprising schemes and projects for development of Major Ports, Shipping and Inland Water Transport Systems only.

International standard Highways

3590. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any study of the broken and unrepaired National Highways in the country;

(b) whether due to inadequate capacity, poor quality of National Highways, the country loses crores of rupees a year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to construct National Highways of international standard?